

POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

Harrison Gas Plant  
Site Name  
South, 4th Street  
Address  
NJ0981134117  
218  
Site ID Number  
Harrison, NJ  
City, State  
Hudson County

Date of Off-Site Reconnaissance February 12, 1985

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Built in 1924 by P.S.E.&G., the Harrison Gas Plant manufactured carbureted water gas and oil gas. Currently operational, the facility now produces only oil gas. Entrance along South 4th Street is completely fenced, preventing any unauthorized access. Several above-ground storage tanks, reaction tanks and offices are located adjacent to the South 4th Street boundary. Large storage tanks are situated at the rear of the facility near the Passaic River boundary. Tar and carbon are known to be stored on-site. Present condition of these deposits are unknown. The February 12, 1985 off-site reconnaissance did not indicate the presence of visible hazards.

PRIORITY FOR FURTHER ACTION: High \_\_\_\_\_ Medium X Low \_\_\_\_\_ None \_\_\_\_\_

## RECOMMENDATIONS

A site inspection including soil samplings and borings is recommended to determine the full extent of damages caused by the stored tar and carbon deposits. The proximity of the site to the Passaic River increases the potential for migration and possible endangerment of the large residential area nearby.

Prepared by: Nicholas C. Rotonda Date: February 21, 1985

MALCOLM PIRNIE \_\_\_\_\_

JRB ASSOCIATES \_\_\_\_\_

SAFE INTERNATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

YURASEK ASSOCIATES X



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
PART 1 - SITE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT

I. IDENTIFICATION  
01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER  
NJ

II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

01 SITE NAME (Legal, common, or descriptive name of site) Harrison Gas Plant		02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER South 4th Street			
03 CITY Harrison	04 STATE NJ	05 ZIP CODE 07029	06 COUNTY Hudson	07 COUNTY CODE	08 CONG DIST
09 COORDINATES LATITUDE 40° 44' 12.0"		LONGITUDE 74° 09' 22.2"		Block 78, 143 Lot 1,7,8 to 33	
10 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road) New Jersey Turnpike to exit 15W and Harrison Avenue. Turn left onto South 4th Street and proceed to end. Site is located on the right.					

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

01 OWNER (If known) Public Service Electric and Gas		02 STREET (Business, mailing, residential) 80 Park Plaza			
03 CITY Newark	04 STATE NJ	05 ZIP CODE 07101	06 TELEPHONE NUMBER (201) 430-5858		
07 OPERATOR (If known and different from owner)		08 STREET (Business, mailing, residential)			
09 CITY		10 STATE	11 ZIP CODE	12 TELEPHONE NUMBER ( )	
13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> B. FEDERAL: _____ (Agency name) <input type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> E. MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER: _____ (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> G. UNKNOWN					
14 OWNER/OPERATOR NOTIFICATION ON FILE (Check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> A. RCRA 3001 DATE RECEIVED: ____/____/____ MONTH DAY YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> B. UNCONTROLLED WASTE SITE (RCRA 103 c) DATE RECEIVED: ____/____/____ MONTH DAY YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. NONE					

IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD

01. ON SITE INSPECTION <input type="checkbox"/> YES DATE ____/____/____ MONTH DAY YEAR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		BY (Check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> A. EPA <input type="checkbox"/> B. EPA CONTRACTOR <input type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. OTHER CONTRACTOR <input type="checkbox"/> E. LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER: _____ (Specify) CONTRACTOR NAME(S): _____			
02 SITE STATUS (Check one) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. ACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> B. INACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> C. UNKNOWN		03 YEARS OF OPERATION BEGINNING YEAR 1924 ENDING YEAR present <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN			
04 DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANCES POSSIBLY PRESENT, KNOWN, OR ALLEGED Substances most likely associated with site operations include coal tar, tar oil, assorted polyaromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) compounds, phenolic compounds, heavy metals and cyanides. (Attachment C)					
05 DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO ENVIRONMENT AND/OR POPULATION Potential soil and groundwater contamination by tar and oil residues either spilled or disposed of on-site; air contamination from blown dust particles; surface water contamination (Passaic River) from site runoff. (Attachments B and C)					

V. PRIORITY ASSESSMENT

01 PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION (Check one. If high or medium is checked, complete Part 2 - Waste Information and Part 3 - Description of Hazardous Conditions and Incidents) <input type="checkbox"/> A. HIGH (Inspection required promptly) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. MEDIUM (Inspection required) <input type="checkbox"/> C. LOW (Inspect on time available basis) <input type="checkbox"/> D. NONE (No further action needed, complete current disposition form)			
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VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

01 CONTACT Fred Schmitt		02 OF (Agency/Organization) NJDEP-BEERA		03 TELEPHONE NUMBER 6091292-1215	
04 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT Nicholas C. Rotonda		05 AGENCY	06 ORGANIZATION Yurasek	07 TELEPHONE NUMBER 201327-7404	08 DATE 2/21/85 MONTH DAY YEAR



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE  
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PART 2 - WASTE INFORMATION

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER  
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II. WASTE STATES, QUANTITIES, AND CHARACTERISTICS

01 PHYSICAL STATES (Check all that apply)

- ☒ A. SOLID  
☒ B. POWDER, FINES  
☐ C. SLUDGE  
☐ D. OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
(Specify)
- ☐ E. SLURRY  
☒ F. LIQUID  
☐ G. GAS

02 WASTE QUANTITY AT SITE

(Measure of waste quantities must be independent)

TONS unknown

CUBIC YARDS \_\_\_\_\_

NO. OF DRUMS \_\_\_\_\_

03 WASTE CHARACTERISTICS (Check all that apply)

- ☒ A. TOXIC  
☐ B. CORROSIVE  
☐ C. RADIOACTIVE  
☒ D. PERSISTENT  
☒ E. SOLUBLE  
☐ F. INFECTIOUS  
☒ G. FLAMMABLE  
☐ H. IGNITABLE  
☒ I. HIGHLY VOLATILE  
☐ J. EXPLOSIVE  
☒ K. REACTIVE  
☐ L. INCOMPATIBLE  
☐ M. NOT APPLICABLE

III. WASTE TYPE

CATEGORY	SUBSTANCE NAME	01 GROSS AMOUNT	02 UNIT OF MEASURE	03 COMMENTS
SLU	SLUDGE			
OLW	OILY WASTE			
SOL	SOLVENTS	unknown		
PSD	PESTICIDES			
OCC	OTHER ORGANIC CHEMICALS	unknown		
IOC	INORGANIC CHEMICALS	unknown		
ACD	ACIDS			
BAS	BASES			
MES	HEAVY METALS	unknown		

IV. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (See Appendix for most frequently cited CAS Numbers)

01 CATEGORY	02 SUBSTANCE NAME	03 CAS NUMBER	04 STORAGE/DISPOSAL METHOD	05 CONCENTRATION	06 MEASURE OF CONCENTRATION
IOC	Ammonia	7664-41-7			
IOC	Ammonium Sulphate	7783-20-2	*Storage/Disposal		
IOC	Coke	65996772	Method Unknown. See		
IOC	Sulfur	7704-34-9	Attachment D For		
IOC	Cyanides	999	A More Complete		
occ	Coal Tar Pitch	65996932	Listing/Description		
occ	Tar Oil	65996910	of associated coal		
occ	Phenols	999	gasification waste		
occ	Amines	999	materials.		
occ	Coal Tar	8007452			
occ	Anthracene	120-12-7			
occ	Naphthalene	91-20-3			
occ	Pyrene	129-00-0			
sol	Benzene	71-43-2			
sol	Toluene	108-88-3			
mes	Heavy Metals	999			

V. FEEDSTOCKS (See Appendix for CAS Numbers)

CATEGORY	01 FEEDSTOCK NAME	02 CAS NUMBER	CATEGORY	01 FEEDSTOCK NAME	02 CAS NUMBER
FDS			FDS		
FDS			FDS		
FDS			FDS		
FDS			FDS		

VI. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references, e.g., site files, sample analysis, reports)

NJDEP/HSMA: The compounds listed above should be considered a generic list of constituents commonly found in coal gasification waste products. Site-specific samples must be taken to characterize the actual contaminants on a particular site.



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PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION

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II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

01 ☒ A. GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Potential contamination of groundwater exists from known deposits of carbon and tar on-site.  
(Attachment B)

01 ☒ B. SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
This site is on a bend along the Passaic River. Site runoff is directed to the river which could cause surface water contamination.  
(Attachment B)

01 ☐ C. CONTAMINATION OF AIR 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☒ D. FIRE/EXPLOSIVE CONDITIONS 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Potential for fire in areas of pooled underground deposits of oil and tar residues.

01 ☐ E. DIRECT CONTACT 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☒ F. CONTAMINATION OF SOIL 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 AREA POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ (Acres) 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION  
Known storage of tar and carbon can lead to contamination of soil near storage areas.  
(Attachment B)

01 ☐ G. DRINKING WATER CONTAMINATION 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☐ H. WORKER EXPOSURE/INJURY 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 WORKERS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☐ I. POPULATION EXPOSURE/INJURY 02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED  
03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION



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I. IDENTIFICATION

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II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS (Continued)

01 ☐ J. DAMAGE TO FLORA  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ K. DAMAGE TO FAUNA  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (include name(s) of species)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ L. CONTAMINATION OF FOOD CHAIN  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☒ M. UNSTABLE CONTAINMENT OF WASTES  
(Spills/runoff/standing liquids/leaking drums)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ 04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The information available is inconclusive in determining the exact storage methods, buried pit storage is probable. (Attachment B)

01 ☒ N. DAMAGE TO OFFSITE PROPERTY  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

Potential exists from site runoff and off-site movement of potentially contaminated groundwater. (Attachment B)

01 ☐ O. CONTAMINATION OF SEWERS, STORM DRAINS, WWTPs  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ P. ILLEGAL/UNAUTHORIZED DUMPING  
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: \_\_\_\_\_)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

05 DESCRIPTION OF ANY OTHER KNOWN, POTENTIAL, OR ALLEGED HAZARDS

III. TOTAL POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

IV. COMMENTS

The quantity and location of waste on-site is unknown. Tar and carbon are known to be stored on site, but extent of migration and contamination are unknown. (Attachment B)

V. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references, e.g., state files, sample analysis, reports)

NJDEP/HSMA- P.S.E.&G. site history (Attachment B)

NJDEP/HSMA- P.S.E.&G. process description (Attachment C)

Off-site reconnaissance February 12, 1985